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1. (SBU) CURRENTLY, VENEZUELAN LAW ENFORCEMENT (VLE), SPECIFICALLY THE CUERPO DE INVESTIGACIONES CIENTIFICAS, PENALES Y CRIMINALISTICAS (CICPC), THE POLICIA METROPOLITANA (PM) AND THE GUARDIA NACIONAL (GN) ARE DISPATCHED THROUGHOUT THE CITY OF CARACAS IN AN EFFORT TO MAINTAIN PUBLIC ORDER AS A RESULT OF THE RECENT CIVIL DISTURBANCE THAT RESULTED IN THE RESIGNATION OF PRESIDENT HUGO CHAVEZ-FRIAS. DURING THE PAST 12 HOURS, VLE HAS BEEN CONDUCTING NUMEROUS ENFORCEMENT OPERATIONS IN CARACAS IN AN EFFORT TO ARREST AND/OR NEUTRALIZE THE PRO-CHAVEZ SUPPORTERS IMPLICATED IN THE ATTACK OF OPPOSITION DEMONSTRATORS IN ON 04/11/2002. THE VLE HAS ARRESTED SEVERAL INDIVIDUALS WHO HAVE BEEN CHARGED IN THE ATTACK, AND HAVE SEIZED A VARIETY OF SMALL CALIBER WEAPONS EITHER UTILIZED OR STORED BY THE GROUP. VLE BELIEVES THAT

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THE PRO-CHAVEZ SUPPORTERS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE ATTACK ON UNARMED CIVILIANS WHO PARTICIPATED IN OPPOSITION DEMONSTRATION WILL CONTINUE TO RESORT TO VIOLENCE TO DISRUPT THE CURRENT GOVERNMENT TRANSITION.

THREATS AGAINST THE MEDIA

2. PRESS REPORTS INDICATE VIOLENCE IN THE STATES OF TACHIRA, FALCON, AND MERIDA BY PRO-CHAVISTAS. THE MEDIA ALSO REPORTS THAT BOLIVARIAN CIRCLE MEMBERS ARE ATTEMPTING TO ENTER THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY BUILDING.

3. THE BOLIVARIAN CIRCLES RELEASED A LIST OF NEWS REPORTERS WHO THEY ARE TARGETING. THIS LIST WAS RELEASED SEVERAL WEEKS AGO, HOWEVER, NOW THAT IT APPEARS THE CIRCLES ARE INDEED TARGETING THE MEDIA, THE REPORTERS HAVE ASKED TODAY THAT THE POLICE PROVIDE THEM WITH INCREASED PROTECTION.

4. TWO JOURNALISTS FROM CHANNEL 8, THE GOVERNMENT OWNED NEWS CHANNEL, WENT TO INDEPENDENT TV STATION GLOBOVISION TO ASK FOR THEIR PROTECTION. APPARENTLY, THEY HAD BEEN RECEIVING THREATS FROM THE PUBLIC.

ESQUALIDOS SRIKE BACK!

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5. SURROUNDED BY A LARGE, ANGRY, CHANTING CROWD,
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BARUTA POLICE TOOK FORMER MINISTER OF THE INTERIOR
RODRIGUEZ CHACIN INTO CUSTODY AT AROUND 1:00 P.M. AT
2:30 P.M., MVR DEPUTY WILLIAM TAREK SAAB WAS TAKEN
INTO POLICE CUSTODY IN THE CARACAS SUBURB OF EL
HATILLO.

6. IN MERIDA, A LARGE CROWD HAS GATHERED AT THE
GOVERNOR'S RESIDENCE, DEMANDING THAT MVR GOVERNOR
FLORENCIO PORRAS NOT ONLY RENOUNCE HIS OFFICE, BUT
THAT HE MOVE OUT OF THE RESIDENCE. THE CROWD WAS
JUBILANT, SINGING "SE VA, SE VA, SE VA, SE VA."
SIMILAR SCENES HAVE BEEN REPORTED IN TACHIRA STATE.

CTV PRESS CONFERENCE

7. CARLOS ORTEGA, PRESIDENT OF THE CTV HELD A MID-DAY
PRESS CONFERENCE DURING WHICH HE CALLED FOR THE
DISSOLUTION OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY. HE ALSO PRAISED
THE MEDIA FOR THEIR BRAVE COVERAGE OF THE EVENTS, AND
FOR BRINGING THE TRUTH NOT ONLY TO THE PEOPLE OF
VENEZUELA, BUT TO THE ENTIRE WORLD. HE PLEDGED THE
CTV'S SUPPORT TO THE TRANSITIONAL MILITARY LEADERSHIP,
AND STATED THAT THE CTV WAS PREPARED TO INITIATE THE
DIALOG AS AN INDEPENDENT, NON-POLITICAL ACTOR. ORTEGA
ALSO CALLED ON THE TRANSITIONAL GOVERNMENT TO

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ACTION DS-00

INFO	LOG-00	MFA-00	NP-00	AID-00	A-00	ACQ-00	CA-01
	CCO-00	CEA-01	CIAE-00	COME-00	CTME-00	INL-00	DINT-00
	DODE-00	DOEE-00	ITCE-00	DOTE-00	WHA-00	SRPP-00	EB-00
	EXME-00	E-00	FAAE-00	UTED-00	VC-00	FRB-00	OBO-00
	H-01	TEDE-00	INR-00	ITC-01	LAB-01	L-00	VCE-00
	M-00	AC-01	NSAE-00	NSCE-00	OCS-03	OES-01	OMB-01
	OPIC-01	OPR-01	PA-00	PER-00	PM-00	PRS-00	ACE-00
	P-00	SCT-00	SP-00	IRM-00	SSO-00	SS-00	STR-00
	TEST-00	TRSE-00	USIE-00	USSS-00	ASDS-01	EPAE-00	IIP-00
	PMB-00	DSCC-00	DRL-02	G-00	NFAT-00	SAS-00	/016W

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FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5464
INFO OPEC COLLECTIVE PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY BOGOTA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY QUITO
AMEMBASSY LA PAZ
AMEMBASSY LIMA
USCINCSO MIAMI FL

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NSC FOR AMB MAISTO
USCINCSO FOR POLAD
DEPT CA FOR MARY A. RYAN AND DS/OP/WHA AND S/ES-
O_DS/OP/CC

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E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: ECON, PGOV, PREL, EPET, ASEC, CASC, VE
SUBJECT: SITREP: THE DAY AFTER

REINSTATE THE LEADERSHIP OF PDVSA, AND TO NAME A NEW
DIRECTOR FROM WITHIN THE OIL INDUSTRY.

ATTORNEY GENERAL CHIMES IN

8. ATTORNEY GENERAL ISIAS RODRIGUEZ SPOKE OUT IN A
2:30 PRESS CONFERENCE, SAYING THAT UNTIL HE RENOUNCES
HIS PRESIDENCY BEFORE THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY, HUGO
CHAVEZ IS STILL PRESIDENT. HE CLAIMED THAT CHAVEZ'S
HUMAN RIGHTS WERE BEING VIOLATED BECAUSE HE WAS BEING
HELD INCOMMUNICADO, AGAINST HIS WILL.

FEDECAMARAS

9. FEDECAMARAS REPRESENTATIVES ARE AT THE EMBASSY TO
MEET WITH THE AMBASSADOR.

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